

SECRET

STUDY TAB

Mu Gia Pass Choke Point

Route 12, Laos

1965

Reporting period: 28 Feb. - 21 April = 53 days

Route capability = 600 STPD during dry season.

53 days
600 STPD
31,800 ST — maximum tonnage capability for 53-day reporting period.

Photos reveal Mu Gia Pass Choke was closed by air strikes and seeding for minimum of 28 days, creating a loss in through-put tonnage of 16,800 tons. This figure does not include delays or cratering as a result of seeding operations since there were days when photo reconnaissance missions were not flown or poor quality photography precluded interpretation. It is safe to assume that some capability was denied the Communists as a result of seeding.

Thus:

31,800 ST
- 16,800 "

15,000 ST possible thru-put, or

15,000 ST = 283 STPD capability, a drop from 600 STPD
53 days

STPD = Short tons per day.

Route Closed 51% of time during period.

USAF Declass/Release Instructions On File

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR
INTERVALS; NOT AUTOMATICALLY
DECLASSIFIED. DOD DIR 5200.10

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S-3076/AP-IT

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Mu Gia Pass Choke Point

Date of Mission	Mission	Description of Damage	Indication of Movement	Remarks
28 Feb. 1965	BRYT 2373 (strike) (Seed)	Light crater action	None	Traffic blocked
1 March	YT 3211 (Recon)	Additional craters	None	Traffic blocked
2-3 March	None		Presume still damaged but being repaired.	Traffic blocked
4 March	None		Presume damage repaired and is trafficable.	Trafficable
5 March	YT 2342	Light cratering	None, but route appears passable, crater damage minor.	Trafficable
6 March 7 March	None		Assumed trafficable	Trafficable
8 March	YT 2347	Crater damage (minor)	Used since 5 March	No difficulty in bypass. Little repair necessary.
9 March	Stan V	No new damage, minor cratering from 8 March repaired.	Trafficable	Trafficable
10 March	None			Trafficable

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Date of Mission	Mission	Description of Damage	Indication of Movement	Remarks
11 March	BRYT 1471 strike and seed	Two new craters, and road seeded	Photography reveals vehicular traffic since 8 March recon.	Traffic blocked by new craters.
12 March	Ron 10	Road still cut by slide from 11 March strike.	None	Traffic blocked
13 March	None	Assume road still cut by slide but in process of repair.		Traffic blocked
14-15 March	None	Repairs could have been completed on slide, if delay bombs did no further damage.	Assume route trafficable	Route trafficable.
16 March	YT 1473	Photos reveal no new damage, previous damage repaired.	Photos reveal vehicle traffic.	Route trafficable
17-18 March	None	Assume no new damage from previous seeding operations.	None	Route trafficable
19 March	SL/YT 1510 BRYT 1511 Strike and seed	New cratering, earth slide across road.	Vehicle tracks indicate route used prior to this strike.	Route now blocked
20-22 March	None	Route still blocked by slides and craters but in process of repair.		Route still blocked

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Date of Mission	Mission	Description of Damage	Indication of Movement	Remarks
23 March	Buster 8	Poor quality of photography precludes interpretation.		Assume route trafficable Route blocked
24 March	BRYT 2333 strike and seed	Heavily cratered with heavy earth slide.	No vehicle tracks since 19 March. Footpath indicates possible portage operation.	Route blocked
25-26 March	None	Assume route still blocked, but repairs in progress.		Route blocked
27 March	None	Assume damage repaired		Route trafficable
28 March	BRYT 1532 strike and seed	No new damage as result of operation.	Photos reveal traffic over route since 24 March recon. Many signs of hand reconstruction along original alignment.	Trafficable
29-30 March				Trafficable
31 March	Stan 6	No new damage		Trafficable
1 April	BRYT 2333 strike and seed	New cratering and slides.	Work and new vehicle tracks appear on north side of slides with work progressing south.	Route blocked
2 April	None	Assume still repairing road.		Route blocked

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Date of Mission	Mission	Description of Damage	Indication of Movement	Remarks
3-4 April		Assume repairs completed.		Route trafficable
5 April	BRYT 1484 strike and seed	New landslides, craters, and heavy boulders present obstacles.	No vehicle tracks.	Route blocked
6 April	None	Assume route still blocked but being repaired.		Route blocked
7 April	BR 1536 strike and seed	Road still blocked.		Route blocked
8-9 April	None	Assume route still in process of being repaired.		Route blocked
10 April	YT 3755	Previous damage almost repaired, no sign of vehicle use, repairs continue.		Possibly open to vehicle traffic on night of 10 April
11 April	None	Repairs probably completed.		Route trafficable
12 April	YT 3752	No new damage.	Repaired and traffic- able.	Route trafficable
13 April	SLIT 2500	No new damage.		Route trafficable
14 April	Alan V	Poor quality photography precludes interpretation.		Route trafficable based on no new damage as of 13 April.
15 April	NONE			Same as above
16 April	NONE			Same as above

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Date of Mission	Mission	Description of Damage	Indication of Movement	Remarks
17, 18, 19, 20, 21 April			Route possibly closed, roadwatch team near choke point reports no traffic.	
21 April	SLYT 2333	Since 13 April, addition- al cratering evident but craters and slides bypassed and/or repaired. Repair time unknown. <i>Assume route was blocked a minimum one day as a result of above cratering.</i>	None	Route appears trafficable but photos reveal no signs of vehicle movement through choke area.

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1 CIA		10 Feb 11 am		4 25X1A			
2				5			
3				6			

DIA FORM 13 MARCH 1963 DIA ROUTING and CONTROL RECORD C19026 DIAR 12-19

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